

NOBILITY IN JAIL.

Members of European
Aristocracy Now Serv-
ing Terms of Im-
prisonment.

The sentence of Lady Scott last week in London for circulating libels concerning her son-in-law, Earl Russell, calls attention to the fact that there are at present in Europe quite a number of other people of title and rank undergoing more or less lengthy terms of imprisonment.

Lady Canning, widow of Sir Henry Canning and granddaughter of the second Lord Churchill, is serving a term of several years' penal servitude for having forged the name of her father to a number of notes, on which she subsequently raised money from London note discounters and tradesmen. She might have escaped with a punishment less severe had the fact not been brought to light during the trial that her frauds had extended over a number of years, and that the financial necessities which had prompted her to resort to this means of obtaining money had been caused by her recklessness in betting on the races.

Another lady of high social standing who was recently called upon to undergo imprisonment with hard labor was the wife of Captain Osborne, of the crack cavalry regiment of Scots Greys. Mrs. Osborne, who belonged by birth to the aristocratic house of Elliott, and who had inherited in her own right a little fortune of about \$5,000 a year, had pawned the pearl necklace of her deceased friend, Mrs. Hay, while staying at the latter's residence, and had then sold it to a London jeweler in order to pay some pressing liabilities.

Equal severity was extended to Gwyneth Maude, granddaughter of the Earl of Montagu, who was sentenced to a couple of years' imprisonment with hard labor for obtaining goods under false pretences.

The Dowager Duchess of Sutherland, more fortunate, was exempted from hard labor and convict garb during the six months' imprisonment that she recently underwent. She was convicted of destroying, in the presence of lawyers and judges, a document which had been impounded by the Court and which was stated to contain evidence that would have doomed her to defeat in a suit against her son-in-law, the present Duke. She completed her term in Holloway Prison, where Lady Scott is now undergoing her punishment, and, like the latter, was permitted many little luxuries beyond the reach of ordinary every-day prisoners.

Mrs. Montague, daughter of Lord Robert Montague, was convicted a year or two ago of the most shocking cruelty to her child, one of whom succumbed thereto. The popular feeling was that she deserved hanging. But owing to the tremendous influence of her husband, she was let off with a term of two years' imprisonment without hard labor.

In times gone by an English duchess, namely, Her Grace of Kingston, underwent imprisonment for bigamy and forgery. At the present moment there are actually relatives of the Queen who are "doing time." They bear the name of Count and Countess Leiningen and belong to the princely and sovereign house of that name. The first husband of Queen Victoria's mother was a Prince of Leiningen. While the Count is wearing stripes in an English penitentiary, the Countess is in jail at Vienna for a long series of crimes, including forgery, blackmail and swindling.

The Marchioness of Donegal, a peeress of Great Britain, has time and again been sent to jail, generally for brief periods, following her arrest in the streets of London for drunkenness and disorderly conduct.

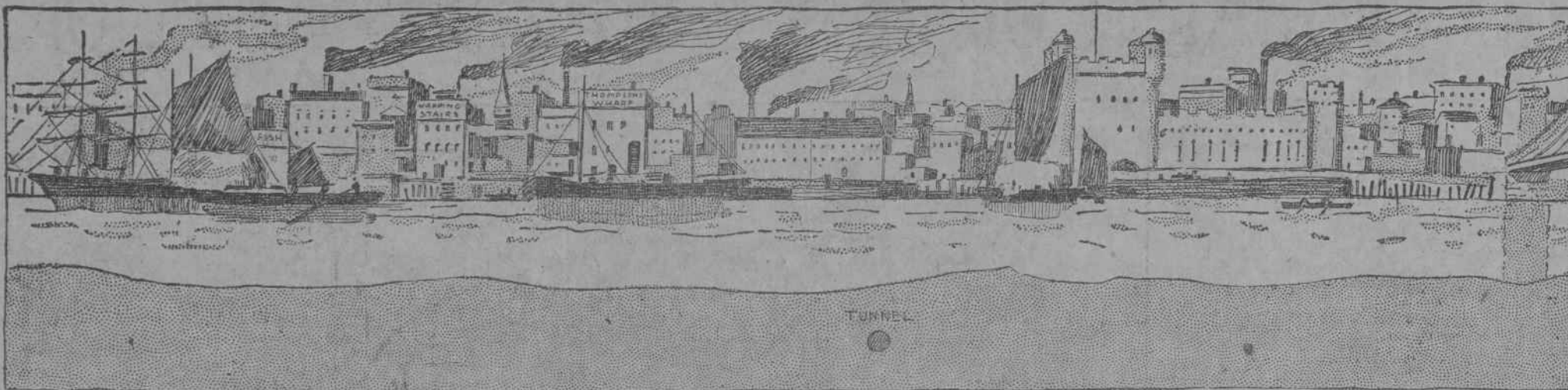
American visitors to Baden-Baden, a couple of years ago were brought into contact with a Baroness von Gleichenberg and her very pretty daughter. The latter was in great demand owing to her magnificent contralto voice. She took part in many of the charitable entertainments during the season.

Both of these ladies are now serving a sentence of four years' imprisonment for larceny and fraud. During the course of the trial it was shown that although they belong to one of the oldest families of Prussia, yet for four years previous to their conviction they had been living almost exclusively on the proceeds of crime.

Among their fellow inmates in prison is Countess Waldeck, a member of the reigning family of that name, and first cousin of that Princess Waldeck who married Queen Victoria's youngest son. She is undergoing punishment for perjury and forgery of so aggravated a character that not all the influence brought to bear by her princely relatives was able to exempt her from the penalty.

Italy enjoys the distinction of possessing two convict dukes. They are the chiefs of the grand old Sicilian princely house of Villarsosa, and are undergoing a term of penal servitude in the great penitentiary

"SIXTY FEET UNDER THE THAMES RUNS A STRANGE PASSAGEWAY."



LONDON'S SUBMARINE DEATH-TRAP AND TRYSTING PLACE.

The Famous Old
Tunnel to Too-
ley Street to
Be Closed
Up.

SIXTY feet under the River Thames runs a strange passageway. It has been the scene of many love vows and murders, as well as several interesting and amusing lawsuits. It is in the form of a large pipe forced through the earth, rather than a tunnel, and its gruesome history attracts the attention of every visitor to the ancient British capital.

Now, this famous landmark of old London is to be swept away, the City Council having decided to close it up. It is known as the Tower subway, and runs beneath the river from Tower Hill to Tooley street. Perhaps no spot in the great British capital is more famous than this quaint old structure, which, from an engineering standpoint, is one of the greatest curiosities in the world.

The tunnel was first opened with the idea of quickly shooting passengers from Tower Hill to Tooley street, a journey which would take considerable time if made on the earth's surface. A quaint little circular omnibus was constructed of steel, and quickly drawn from one end to the other by a wire. The passengers descended the shaft and, entering the omnibus through a trap door in its top, descended into the car by a ladder. This was a crude and uncomfortable method of transportation, and it was not long before the little steel "train" was abolished.

The ventilation was bad, the tunnel was in darkness and there was always the fear that the River Thames would make day break through the steel cars and drown the passengers in their subterranean death trap. Once in the car, it was impossible to get out until the other end of the passage was reached. The only exit was through the trap door at the top.

Two or three times, when the cable has broken, a carload of passengers have been near death from suffocation before they could be released. There is plenty of ventilation in the tunnel itself, but no room to allow of its passage into a car. When visited for the first time, a most uncanny feeling comes over one. The atmosphere is damp and chill; no outlet is to be seen and above can be heard the splashing of the paddle boats as they steam overhead in the Thames.

Since the abolition of the little steel "train," the bridge has been opened to foot passengers on payment of one cent toll, but few pedestrians have even cared to walk through it unless they are in a dreadful hurry, for the place is spooky, and many episodes of a gruesome nature have happened there. There have been several murders committed in its depths, and the shrieks of terrified women have told of highway, or, rather, subterranean, robberies. Once caught in the tunnel by a desperado, the wayfarer has no hope of escape, and even if rescue is at hand, there is small hope of catching the offender. The passage is so small that only three persons can walk abreast, and then they are compelled to walk close together. It is impossible to run through the tunnel.

It was constructed in 1860, and cost over \$80,000. Two shafts, each sixty feet deep, lead down to the tunnel, which is a continuous steel tube, built of circular bands, which were riveted to each other as fast as the boring was done. The tunnel is 1,330 feet long, and is only seven feet high. It is now lighted by electricity, but originally was kept in total darkness. Elopements have been planned there; scandals have had their origin within its depths, and its name has been used a thousand times to hold refractory children in check.

The Londoners are not fond of tunnels. This hole under the Thames has hardly been able to earn enough money to pay for lighting it and keeping it in repair. The London underground railroads are a failure from a financial standpoint. The people refuse to patronize them in great numbers, preferring the cheap omnibuses that will carry one for miles for a penny, and in which good light and air may be enjoyed.

The tunnel under the Thames was considered by Britishers one of the wonders of the world at the time it was opened, and while the English were still marvelling at it as a triumph of genius, the company went into the hands of a receiver. As an engineering work, it is not remarkable. Both the Hoosac Tunnel and the New York Aqueduct eclipse it for length and dimensions. It would make only a minute fraction of our new aqueduct, which is thirty miles long, twice as large, and all cut through solid rock under ground. It has been a serious obstruction to navigation in the Thames, as vessels are prohibited from anchoring opposite the Tower, for fear of punching a hole in the tunnel. Americans who have visited its gloomy precincts, have long wondered at its partial abandonment, and at the stupidity which persisted in keeping it open after its uselessness had long ago been demonstrated.

of Maddalena, near Naples, for the cowardly murder of a young infantry lieutenant named Leone, who was betrothed to their sister, the Princess Catarina. The assassination took place at Palermo, in the magnificent Villarsosa palace, which they own there. They had invited the young officer to dine with them in the most friendly manner. After dinner the two princes took his life by stabbing him as he was about to leave the palace. In the same prison is the Prince Carac-

Still the quaint old place is recalled among the happy recollections of dozens of London's east side lovers. It has for years been a popular meeting place for "Arty and Arriet," and many is the love song that has been sung there to the music of the rolling waters above. So narrow is the tunnel and so many are the amusing experiences associated with it, that the London comic papers have often utilized them, as, for instance, in the following:

"A suit for damages, brought by Thomas Yates, a brewer, living in Wimbledon, against Evan Roland, who conducts a large bakery in the Shoreditch district, was tried in the Bow Street Palace Court. Mr. Yates weighs 300 pounds, while Roland is almost as large. According to Yates, he entered the tunnel at the Tooley street entrance, making the short cut to save time. In the middle of the subway he met Roland, and, after a quarter of an hour's dodging, the two men found out that they could not pass each other. Then an argument arose as to which should go back. Yates explained that he was going to compete against several other brewers for the supply of several public houses owned by a syndicate. Roland frankly admitted that he was on pleasure bent, but firmly refused to walk back to Tower Hill. The men remained there arguing for fully half an hour, during which time fully a dozen persons entered the tunnel from one end or the other, and, finding their passage blocked, were forced to retire. Finally Yates decided to retire from the scene, and make his way back to Tooley street. Later, he brought suit against Roland for \$10,000 damages, asserting that he had lost the opportunity to extend his business through him. The Court held that if there was a cause for a suit at all, it was against the city, and not against Roland, and the latter was discharged. The city, however, had protected itself by returning to each man his half penny tollage, and the case was soon dropped."

Owing to the financial failure of its tunnel, the company which owned it has received \$55,000 from the city corporation as compensation for loss of takings, and now steps are to be taken at once to close up the strange old passageway. When the tunnel under the Thames is closed, it will be abandoned to the processes of nature. Everything of value which it contains will first be taken out. Then the water of the river will be allowed to enter the tunnel. The shafts whereby passengers now descend to the tunnel, near the Tower and on the other side of the Thames, will be closed and boarded over. Mud will rapidly accumulate within the tunnel as soon as the water of the Thames are allowed to have free access to it. Within a year of its abandonment, it will thus become filled with mud and sand, and no human being will probably ever again walk through it.

In this condition it will somewhat resemble our New York tunnel, which runs half way out to the North River from the New York side. The North River tunnel, by the way, was constructed by British capitalists. English investors seem to have a passion for tunnels, which they persist in building in various parts of the world, in spite of many warnings. Tunnels are failures because they are very costly to build and maintain, and because they are objectionable on account of bad air and the absence of natural light. The North River tunnel is a melancholy monument of misdirected energy, which has cost even more than the London tunnel, which it is now proposed to close. After nearly a dozen workmen had been killed in it, it was abandoned some fifteen years ago, and fish now swim contentedly between its walls. Many of the bridges across the Thames, all of which are well patronized, cost considerably less than the tunnel under the river. Every one of these bridges has paid for itself many times over, while every man who put money into the Thames tunnel lost it as effectually as if he had put it into a bottomless hole.

This queer tunnel is built close to historic ground. It runs from the place of imprisonment of Sir Walter Raleigh to the site of the most famous gathering of diplomats in the annals of European politics. Everybody has heard of the three tailors of Tooley street. Here, close to the end of the tunnel, these enlightened statesmen had their places of business. They first achieved world-wide renown when Canning called attention to the petition they had addressed to Parliament, commencing, "We, the People of England."

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Scene of Many
Murders and
Love Vows
Under the
Thames.



"Once Caught in the Tunnel by a Desperado, the
Wayfarer Has No Chance of Escape."

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UNCLE SAM'S DEATH CODE.

Five Crimes, Instead of
Sixty, Hereafter to
Receive the Maxi-
mum Penalty.

The President of the United States will within a few days approve an act of Congress which reduces the number of offences against the Government, punishable by death after conviction, from sixty to five.

Many of the statutes of the United States, as carried on the books for nearly a century, were copied from the laws of England. Time was in England when the offences not punishable by death were fewer than those that were.

In countries dominated by the military life is yet held cheap, and offences that civilization now classes as misdemeanors, or more disturbances of the public or perchance individual, peace, are by law made capital.

Just as absurd and behind-the-times ordinances are carried on the books of New York City from year to year, the Federal Statutes have been loaded down for a hundred years with mandates that insult the intelligence of the age.

The penalties for crime that it is possible for a judge in a United States court to inflict have for many years been disproportionate to the maximum power of the State courts. For instance: A civilian or a member of the United States Army who strikes or physically assaults an officer of the United States may be hanged, provided that the officer is in commission and in uniform.

A man who assaults the Governor of a great State is guilty of an offence measured only by the physical damage caused, and can be fined or imprisoned, for no more nor longer, all things considered, than if the object of his violence were plain John Smith, of Brown street.

Congressman Newton Curtis, of Ogdenburg, over four years ago, undertook to bring the Federal criminal code up to the times, and the final passage of his House bill by the Senate last Wednesday signified a victory that was only gained by persistence.

Under the act as reconstructed there will be but five capital offences known to the Federal law. These are murder on a territory, fort, magazine, shop or reservation wherein the United States has technical jurisdiction; rape on the same; treason, piracy and treasonable betrayal of trust in the army or navy.

Among the capital offences on the statute books, most of which, it should be said, are dead letters, and which are rejected by the courts, are:

Being accessory before the fact to piracy, Being accessory after the fact to an act of piracy.

Aiding or abetting by advice or counsel or command an act of robbery, murder or other piracy.

Knowingly concealing the fruits of a piracy, or assisting in the escape from arrest of the perpetrator of an act of piracy, robbery or murder.

Having in possession the fruits of piracy, Treason, in levying war or adhering to the enemies of the Government.

Inciting to or engaging in rebellion against the Government.

Aiding, abetting, etc., to commit murder or piracy on the high seas.

The corrupt casting away of a vessel on the high seas by the owner.

Destruction of a vessel on the high seas by other than the owner.

Laying violent hands by seamen upon the commander of a vessel to prevent his defence of the vessel.

Robbery on the high seas.

Robbery on shore by the crew of a pirate, Murder, robbery or hostile act under cover of a foreign commission.

Forcibly confining a negro on a vessel with intent of making him a slave.

Landing from a vessel and seizing a negro with attempt to enslave him.

Malignant burning of a fort or a dock yard.

Burning a vessel of war.

Rescue by force of persons found guilty of capital crimes against the United States.

Disobeying or striking a superior officer in the army or navy.

Refusal or failure to resist the enemy in the army or navy.

Willfully causing a false alarm of military attack.

Mutinous conduct in presence of the enemy.

Forcibly compelling an officer to surrender.

Disobeying the watchword.

Relieving the enemy with money, valuables or supplies.

Desertion from army or navy in time of war.

Aiding others to desert in time of war.

Correspondence with the enemy.

An equal number of offences against the discipline of the navy are in the books. These are all struck out by the Curtis bill.

In time of war martial law asserts itself, and the military is a law unto itself.



THE ROGUES' GALLERY OF TITLED EUROPEANS WHO HAVE, DESPITE THEIR NOBILITY, COMMITTED CRIMES.